

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 00332 101228Z

21

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

----- 118286

P R 101055Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8359

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 0332

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK

SUBJECT: BHUTTO-DAOUD

1. IN A LONG AND WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSION WITH BHUTTO AFTER A DUCK SHOOT AT LARKANA TWO DAYS AGO, I TOLD HIM I WAS CONCERNED AT THE RECENT APPARENT SETBACK IN PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS. I TOUGHT THIS ALL THE MORE UNFORTUNATE AS THERE HAD SEEMED TO BE STRAWS IN THE WIND LATELY INDICATING A SOFTENING OF AFGHAN ATTITUDES. I TOLD HIM MY STAFF WERE PLEASED TO SEE IN THE PRESS THAT HE HAD INVITED DAOUD TO COME ON A VISIT, BUT THAT I HAD TOLD THEM I THOUGHT THEY MIGHT AS WELL FORGET IT AS THE AFGHANS WOULD RESENT ANY PUBLICITY THAT HAD NOT BEEN WORKED OUT WITH THEM. I TOLD BHUTTO OF THE APPARENT EMOTIONAL AFGHAN REACTION TO THE PRESS TREATMENT AS CONTAINED IN KABUL 96.

2. BHUTTO SAID THAT HE TOO WAS DISTRESSED AND CAME CLOSE TO AN OUTRIGHT ADMISSION THAT HE HAD GOOFED THIS ONE UP. HE SAID HE HAD CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH AN IMPORTANT JOURNALIST HERE WHOM HE OFTEN TALKED TO ON BACKGROUND. THE HOURNALIST HAD OFTEN TRIED TO CONVINCE HIM THAT HE COULD BE OF SERVICE IF HE COULD BE A SEMI-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 00332 101228Z

OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN FOR BHUTTO ALONG THE LINES OF MOHAMMAD

HEIKAL IN CAIRO. RECENTLY THIS JOURNALIST HAD REMINDED HIM OF A CONVERSATION OF SOME TIME AGO IN WHICH BHUTTO HAD TOLD HIM TO WATCH PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF THE NAP AS ANY CHANGE IN KABUL ATTITUDES MIGHT BECOME FIRST APPARENT THROUGH THAT SOURCE. THE JOURNALIST CAME TO BHUTTO A FEW DAYS AGO WITH EVIDENCE THAT THE NAP LINE RE AFGHANISTAN INTENTIONS SEEMS TO BE MODERATING AND ASKED BHUTTO IF HE SAW ANY ENCOURAGING SIGNS HIMSELF. BHUTTO ADMITTED HE DID AND WENT SO FAR AS TO SAY HE HAD BEEN ENCOURAGED TO THE POINT OF SENDING THE INVITATION TO DAOUD. THE JOURNALIST PRESSED HARD FOR AUTHORITY TO LEAK THE NEWS AND BHUTTO LATER AGREED (ALTHOUGH NOW HE WISHES HE HAD NOT). THIS PROMPTED QUESTIONS AT HIS NEXT MEETING WITH THE PRESS AND BHUTTO SAID HE FELT HE COULD NOT DENY THE STORY AS IT WAS TRUE. HE SAID HE OFTEN DID THINGS LIKE THIS, MENTIONING POSSIBLE FUTURE MEETINGS WITH INDIRA GANDHI, THE SHAH, ETC., AND HE SAID NOBODY SEEMED TO GET MAD. HE SAID HE HOPED THAT DAOUD COULD REALIZE THAT THEIR METHODS OF OPERATIONS WERE SO DIFFERENT. PAKISTAN, HE SAID, WAS A DEMOCRACY AND BY THE VERY NATURE OF THINGS WAS FAR MORE OPEN WHILE DAOUD CONFINED HIMSELF TO HIS OFFICE AND SAW ALMOST NO ONE.

3. IN A DISCUSSION OF AFGHANISTAN SENSITIVITY I TOLD HIM I THOUGHT THAT ANYTHING OF THIS NATURE WOULD HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY WORKED OUT SO THAT ANNOUNCEMENT COULD BE SIMULTANEOUS AND WITH AGREED WORDING. BHUTTO SAID HE WAS CONSIDERING A PERSONAL LETTER TO DAOUD TO SEE IF HE COULD CONVINCE DAOUD THAT HE HAD INTENDED NO DECEPTION, AND HAD NOT BEEN MOTIVATED BY ANY DESIRE FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES. I SAID THIS WOULD APPEAR TO BE A GOOD MOVE, BUT IN THE PRESENT EMOTIONAL AND SUSPICIOUS ATMOSPHERE IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO GET THINGS STRAIGHTENED OUT BY THE WRITTEN WORD. SPEAKING IN GENERAL TERMS, AND NOT PARTICULARLY FOCUSING ON THIS INCIDENT, I SAID THAT AT TIMES THE OFFER TO SEND VERY QUIETLY AN APPROPRIATE PERSONAL EMISSARY TO GET THINGS BACK ON THE TRACKS MIGHT BE MORE EFFECTIVE. THINKING AND HOPING THAT HE MIGHT UPON REFLECTION GRASP THE IDEA, I TOLD HIM OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF FORMER AMBASSADOR AMJAD ALI OF LAHORE IN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 00332 101228Z

JUST SUCH A MISSION TO GET THE BORDER REOPENED IN THE EARLY 60'S. THE REMAINDER OF OUR CONVERSATION WAS ABOUT WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED THEN, IN WHICH BHUTTO, DESPITE THE FACT THAT HE WAS THEN IN THE GOVERNMENT, WAS UNCERTAIN OF AND MISINFORMED AS REGARDS THE FACTS.

4. I HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWINGWHETHER BHUTTO MIGHT ACT UPON MY SUGGESTION. I WOULD GUESS, HOWEVER, AS A

MINIMUM THAT HE WILL BE CORRESPONDING DIRECTLY WITH
DAOUD. I AM, HOWEVER, CONVINCED THAT BHUTTO DID NOT HAVE
THE INTENTION OF DELIBERATELY SABOTAGING THE DISCUSSION
PROSPECTS WITH AFGHANISTAN. THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME,
WHEN HE IS ON TRIPS IN THE PROVINCES, THAT HE SAYS THINGS
THAT TURN OUT NOT TO BE HELPFUL. THIS, OF COURSE, IS THE
POLITICIAN IN HIM WHICH JUST SEEMS TO BE A FACT OF LIFE
AND HIS INSTINCTIVE METHOD OF OPERATION IS, OF COURSE,
SO COMPLETELY DIFFERENT THAN THAT IN AFGHANISTAN.
BYROADE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMITY, ARBITRATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ISLAMA00332
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750010-0523
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750163/aaaaccvw.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUL 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BHUTTO-DAOUD
TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK, (BHUTTO, ALI), (DAOUD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006